



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

THE RED CROSS

IN CHARGE OF

JANE A. DELANO, R.N.

Chairman of the National Committee on Red Cross Nursing Service.

More or less confusion has arisen in the minds of the nurses throughout the country on account of a letter recently issued from the Surgeon General's office, making an appeal for nurses for cantonment service in our own country, and certain misleading statements have been issued. This appeal from the Surgeon General's office does not, in any way, relieve the Red Cross Nursing Service of its responsibility, or lessen the necessity of enrollment and prompt response of nurses who are on file as available for active service.

Not only the Army, but the Navy and the Federal Public Health Service as well, now as formerly, rely upon the Red Cross to supply nurses for service, and any appeal going out direct from the Superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps does not change, in any way, this relation. The Army Nurse Corps is a permanent service, into which nurses are definitely recruited, as in the regular Army. It is hoped, however, that the nurses of the country, especially those who are already enrolled, will respond in sufficient numbers to meet all the needs of the Army Nurse Corps.

In view of the tremendous demands which will undoubtedly be made upon the nurses of the country in the near future, the Executive Committee of the Red Cross has recently created a Department of Nursing, under which are placed the Bureau of Enrollment, the Bureau of Field Service, and the Bureau of Instruction. The Chairman of the National Committee has been asked to serve also as executive head of the Department of Nursing, with the title of Director. Anna W. Kerr, for more than eight years Superintendent of Nurses of the Bureau of Child Hygiene, Department of Health of New York City, has been appointed Director of the Bureau of Enrollment. Clara D. Noyes, Director of the Bureau of Field Service, will be temporarily relieved from duty at Red Cross headquarters, and will make a tour of the country in the interests of the Nursing Service. We believe that with her intimate knowledge of the needs of the service, and of the nursing situation throughout the country, she will, in this way, be able to carry to the nurses definite information concerning the nursing needs of the military establishments, and their responsibility at this time.

RED CROSS NEWS

BY CLARA D. NOYES, R.N.

It will be a matter of interest and satisfaction to the nurses of the country to learn that the Red Cross has decided to give a complete equipment to all nurses sent overseas with either the Army, the Navy, or under the Red Cross. This rule applies not only to the Red Cross nurse who enters the military service as a reserve, but to members of the regular Army and Navy Nurse Corps as well.

The equipment includes the following articles and is supplied in New York City at the office of the Nursing Service at 44 East 23d Street: 1 blanket, 1 sleeping bag, 1 hold-all, 1 poncho, 1 Norfolk suit, 1 ulster, 2 white waists, 1 silk or flannel waist, 2 pairs of gloves, 1 hat, 1 sou'wester, 1 raincoat, 1 pair scuffs, 2 pairs black tights, 3 pairs pajamas, 4 sets of underwear, heavy wool, 2 dozen pairs stockings, 4 pairs shoes, 1 pair woolen gloves or mittens, 4 gray crepe hospital uniforms, 12 sets white organdy collars and cuffs, 2 pairs cuff links, 4 caps, 8 aprons, 1 pair caduceii and U. S. letters, 1 pair rubber boots, 1 sweater.

To nurses serving in the sanitary zones around the cantonments as public health workers, an equipment consisting of dress (blue serge), heavy ulster, cape, hat, and three gray wash uniforms, with the necessary collars and cuffs, is furnished. Nurses for "overseas" should remember that the cold is intense in that country, and should take with them in addition to the above a hot water bag, bed shoes, long sleeved corset cover (knit), a small alcohol lamp with utensil for heating water, solid alcohol, small supply of George Washington coffee, malted milk, sugar, beef tablets, etc., a small United States flag may also not be found amiss.

For home service in the cantonment, the nurse is given the caps and a cape of blue, lined with scarlet.

The following nurses have been sent to Vodena, Greece, to assist in establishing a hospital for Servian and Roumanian refugees: Clara G. Lewis, Jessie May Cann, Ruth Sherman Bentley.

The public health and infant welfare workers in France have been augmented by the following nurses: Mary E. Bayley, Helen Bigelow, Rose Bogen, Mary A. Brogan, Freda M. Caffin, Josephine S. Ellett, Agnes R. Gay, Irene A. Jennings, Gladys Porter, Katharine M. Robertson.

Roumania by: Marguerite A. Brogan, Julia S. Domser, Mary Elizabeth Eby, Katherine Kingman, Hattie G. Lowry, Mattie Snow McNeill, Frances A. Norquist, Lemo Oliver, Alice E. Stenholm.

The following Base Hospitals have been authorized since the last report: Base Hospital No. 48, Metropolitan, New York City, Chief Nurse, Helen D. Bengston; Base Hospital No. 49, State University, Omaha, Neb., Chief Nurse, Ida Gerding; Base Hospital No. 50, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash., Chief Nurse, not yet nominated.

A nursing personnel of 100 has been asked for by the Surgeon General for Army Base Hospital No. 116, organized for the care of fractures. Several special units are also under course of organization, including one mobile operating unit of fifteen nurses; a request has also been received to organize masseuses for work in connection with the reconstruction hospitals.

The following resume shows the number of nurses assigned and mobilized for assignment since war was declared:

ARMY			
	<i>Mobilized, but not Assigned.</i>	<i>On Duty, Home.</i>	<i>On Duty, Foreign.</i>
From Base Hospitals	260		1390
From Hospital Units	84		63
Emergency Detachments		1530	
Detached from Base Hospitals, temporarily		190	
Detached from Hospital Units, temporarily		100	
Chief Nurses at Cantonments.....		8	
For Psychiatric Service		34	
NAVY			
From Base Hospitals	181		100
From Naval Stations	67	15	
From Navy Detachments	141	253	
With special Red Cross Units		48	118
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	733	2178	1671
Attached to Base Hospitals not yet ordered to mobilize—not avail- able for duty			1700
Attached to Hospital Units not yet ordered to mobilize			120
Attached to Navy Detachments not yet ordered to mobilize.....			40
			<hr/>
			1860

Special units, such as Reconstruction Hospitals, Public Health, and Town and Country service add approximately 1000 more not available for service.

This is no small achievement, no mean accomplishment. To secure these nurses and prepare them for duty has meant hard, exacting and patient work for all concerned, the State and Local committees and the organizing nurses of Units and Detachments, the Red Cross Nursing Service officials and clerical staff, and it has cost large sums of money which the Red Cross has generously provided. But more must be done, present estimates provided by the Surgeon General indicate that thousands

of nurses will be required if the war continues. New units will be organized and the nurses now in service will need relief. The present enrollment, 15,000, large as it appears, is not adequate, as it does not necessarily mean that all are available for service. Many have married or have passed the age limit, others have resigned or have died, while many are engaged in forms of work too important to be disturbed; others have been rejected physically. It therefore follows that the enrollment must be stimulated. Every effort will be made to simplify this process, and to make it as easy as possible for a nurse to become a member of the Red Cross Nursing Service. The young nurse who is accustomed to active work in the institution is best fitted for the service. She is accustomed to the hard work, the routine of bedside nursing is comparatively easy for her.

Having once entered the Red Cross Nursing Service, she should prepare to report ready for duty as promptly as possible. The primary object of the service is to care for the sick or wounded soldiers or sailors wherever they may be. Let her not enter if she is unwilling to accept this responsibility. The nurses of this country have a heavy responsibility placed upon their shoulders. By virtue of their special preparation they cannot evade this moral obligation. The sick soldier in the cantonment is now calling her more loudly than is his brother in France. It may be your brother or cousin or father. What are the readers of this magazine doing about it? Have you enrolled in the Red Cross Nursing Service? If not, why not? If you have enrolled, are you ready for service? Have you sent in to the National Headquarters your physical examination, and indicated the earliest date that you will respond? Have you sent in a correct and permanent address, one where you will be found when the Government travel orders are forwarded? For they must be executed on the spot, they cannot be forwarded to you. All these matters must be attended to in order that delays may be prevented. Irksome as these details may appear, it must be remembered that the Government cannot deal with individual cases, it must deal with conditions as a whole.

I regret to report the deaths of two nurses who have been assigned to duty. Miriam E. Knowles, a member of Johns Hopkins Base Hospital Unit, died in France of scarlet fever after a short illness. A note recently received from her mother says:

Thank you for your kind and sympathetic letter, and also for telling us of your trip to Hoboken and what steamer the Hopkins Unit sailed on. Our dear daughter never gave the censors anything to do—she never mentioned the steamer, any city or town or river by name, so we have no idea where her lonely grave may be. She indeed went off with high hopes and a smiling face and always spoke of her work as so interesting. In one letter she said she was so thankful she was over there in time to be of so much use. Now it is all over and her parents are heart broken.

The other death was that of Rose A. Young, sent but a few weeks ago to Camp Shelby, Miss. She died on November 28, after only 24 hours' illness, of acute ascending paralysis.

INSURANCE

The nurses will be interested to learn that the Compensation Insurance Law for the Military and Naval Forces of the United States applies equally to the nurses. The law is quite a complicated one, but it would be greatly to the advantage of all nurses to thoroughly look into it, in order that they may take advantage of its provisions. The Bureau of War Risk Insurance, Division of Military and Naval Insurance, Washington, D. C., is willing to furnish literature explaining the requirements of this Act. It is hoped that this provision will include an increase in pay for nurses, and a month's sick leave with pay. The pay for army nurses is now \$50 per month in this country, and \$60 in foreign countries for ward nurses; Chief Nurses receive \$80 in this country, and \$90 in foreign countries; The same schedule is used by the Red Cross. It is hoped that an increase of \$15 in all grades will be allowed.

QUESTION OF RANK

The question of rank is also being vigorously agitated, and it is hoped that in the near future this will be secured by the members of the Army Nurse Corps.

IDENTIFICATION

The nurses have been required to secure passports. The difficulty encountered in getting birth certificates, or affidavits certifying to the date and place of birth has been so great that the new ruling concerning this will be greatly appreciated. The State Department has been willing to accept the identification certificate issued by the War Department.

CHRISTMAS BOXES

The Red Cross has arranged for the distribution of twenty Christmas boxes for each Base Hospital. These have been prepared under the auspices of the parent hospital from which the Base Hospital was withdrawn. They have been consigned to Major Murphy, the representative of the Red Cross, for distribution after their arrival in France. The Central Club, New York City, arranged the Christmas boxes for the detached groups at the American Ambulance, American Red Cross Hospital in Paris, and the public health workers scattered throughout France now working under the auspices of the Red Cross.